

## Sparc Secures **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> Field Trial with 29Metals

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Sparc Technologies and Golden Grove Operations Pty Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of 29Metals Limited (ASX:29M), have signed a binding agreement to undertake a field trial of **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> enhanced anti-corrosive coating on processing plant infrastructure
- Second binding trial agreement signed by Sparc this year
- Successful continuation of Sparc's strategy of working with asset owners across government, defence, mining and oil & gas to demonstrate **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup>'s performance in relevant real-world environments

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**Sparc Technologies Limited (ASX: SPN) (Sparc, Sparc Technologies or the Company)** is pleased to announce the execution of a binding agreement (**Trial Agreement**) with Golden Grove Operations Pty Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of 29Metals Limited (**29Metals**), a leading Australian miner of base and precious metals. The Trial Agreement details the terms and conditions under which Sparc and 29Metals will conduct a collaborative field trial involving the application of an **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> enhanced coating on steel processing plant infrastructure at the Golden Grove mine site in Western Australia.

The Trial Agreement with 29Metals represents a continuation of Sparc's strategy of working with asset owners across government, defence, mining and oil & gas to demonstrate the performance of **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> enhanced coatings in relevant real-world environments. The climatic and physical environment at the Golden Grove processing plant, which is located 250km east of Geraldton in WA, is significantly different to the coastal environments being used for field trials with the South Australian Department for Infrastructure and Transport (**DIT**) (refer to [ASX Announcement 28 March 2024](#)). This will provide Sparc and its potential customers with additional real-world performance data which will build on over 5 years of research and development and >10,000 data points based on accelerated corrosion testing in the laboratory. Importantly, this agreement shows continuing market demand from industry for better performing anti-corrosive coatings.

### **Sparc Managing Director, Mr. Nick O'Loughlin commented:**

*"It is highly rewarding to see our **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> additive incorporated into a market leading anti-corrosive paint for use on infrastructure within the mining sector. The extensive internal test work that has been completed with excellent results will now be externally validated in an application and environment which is distinctly different from the recently announced trials with the South Australian Department for Infrastructure and Transport. We thank 29Metals for the innovative approach they have shown by supporting this new technology which Sparc is confident will improve asset performance and sustainability whilst lowering maintenance costs for steel assets."*





*Figure 1: Processing plant at Golden Grove Mine, WA*

As per the field trials with DIT, the trial at Golden Grove will compare the performance of an **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> enhanced coating with a control area coated with a market leading anti-corrosive paint. Sparc's key obligations, as outlined in the Trial Agreement, are to supply the agreed quantities of **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> enhanced and unmodified control coatings to Golden Grove at Sparc's cost, along with specified application instructions. 29Metals' obligations include to provide and prepare the agreed steel infrastructure and to arrange for application of the **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> enhanced and control coatings at its own cost. A summary of the material terms of the Trial Agreement is set out in an Appendix to this announcement. The financial impact of the Trial Agreement is negligible. However, the Trial Agreement is material to Sparc on the basis it represents a further key milestone in the testing of the Company's flagship graphene based additive product on key infrastructure in relevant real-world environments.

### **About **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> - A performance additive for Protective Coatings**

Sparc Technologies has conducted over 5 years of research and development on **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup>, its flagship graphene based additive product. The addition of very small quantities of **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> to conventional protective coatings, has demonstrated up to 40% anti-corrosion improvement in commercially available epoxy-based coatings, ensuring the reliability, longevity, safety and cost-effectiveness of the steel infrastructure they cover.

In 2023, the Company commissioned its **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> commercial production facility. The facility enables Sparc to provide commercial quantities of graphene based additive product for the coatings industry and to support field trials. Multiple global coatings companies continue to undertake product evaluation of **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> in their anti-corrosive coatings. Further to this, Sparc is progressing a campaign targeting asset owners with a view to conducting field trials utilising **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> enhanced coatings on key steel infrastructure such as frames, tanks and structures in a variety of corrosive environments. Infrastructure owners being targeted include government, defence, mining, and oil and gas companies.





**-ENDS-**

**Authorised for release by:** Nick O'Loughlin, Managing Director.

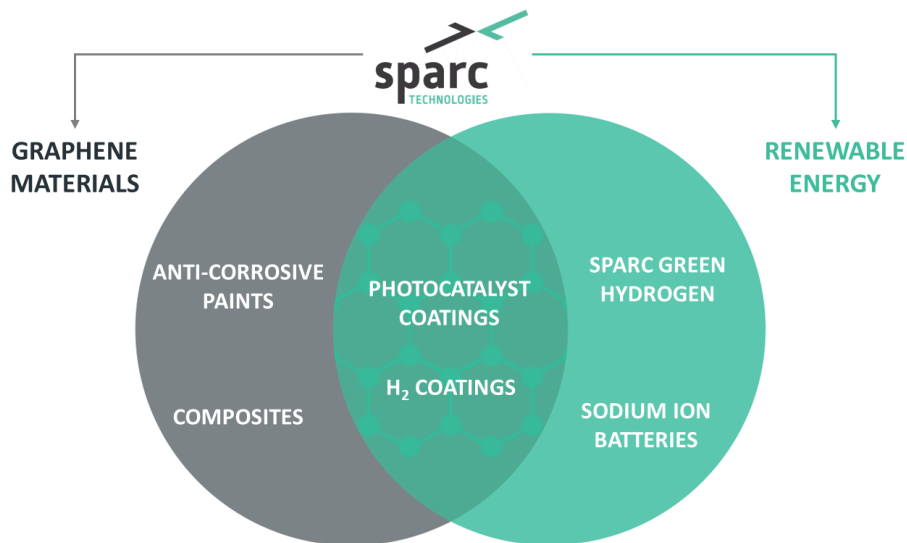
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## About Sparc Technologies



Sparc Technologies Limited ("Sparc", ASX: SPN) is an Australian company pioneering new technologies to disrupt and transform industry while seeking to deliver a more sustainable world. Sparc has established offices in Australia, Europe and North America and is focused on three core areas of technology development.

1. Sparc has spent over 5 years developing a **graphene based additive** product, **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup>, which has demonstrated up to 40% anti-corrosion improvement in commercially available epoxy-based coatings. Sparc recently commissioned a manufacturing facility to produce **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> and is engaging with global coatings companies to commercialise the technology.
2. Sparc is a majority shareholder of **Sparc Hydrogen** which is a company pioneering the development of **photocatalytic water splitting** ('PWS') green hydrogen production technology. PWS is an alternative to producing green hydrogen via electrolysis, using only sunlight, water and a photocatalyst. Given lower infrastructure requirements and energy use, the process has the potential to deliver a cost and flexibility advantage over electrolysis.
3. Sparc is also developing sustainable **sodium ion battery anode technology** derived from agricultural bio-waste materials.

For more information please visit: [sparctechnologies.com.au](https://sparctechnologies.com.au)

For more information about **ecosparc**<sup>®</sup> please visit: [ecosparc.com.au](https://ecosparc.com.au)

For more information about Sparc Hydrogen please visit: [sparchydrogen.com](https://sparchydrogen.com)



## Appendix: Material terms of Trial Agreement with Golden Grove Operations Pty Ltd

<b>Trial Location:</b>	Golden Grove mine Yalgoo-Paynes Find Road, Yalgoo, Western Australia
<b>Term:</b>	24 months
<b>Sparc's Obligations:</b>	Supply of <b>ecosparc</b> <sup>®</sup> enhanced coating and control coating to 29Metals at its own cost.
<b>29Metals' Obligations:</b>	<p>At its own cost, preparation of relevant steel infrastructure and application of the <b>ecosparc</b><sup>®</sup> enhanced coating and control coating under the same conditions to ensure the comparability of results.</p> <p>Use best endeavours to ensure the trials are not compromised and that the infrastructure is protected from unauthorised access or use, misuse, damage or destruction.</p> <p>Provide reports to Sparc in a form to be agreed between the parties. Allow access to Sparc and an independent expert to inspect the infrastructure and verify information in the reports provided by 29Metals.</p>
<b>Inspection and Testing Protocols:</b>	<p>Sparc will engage an independent expert in the field of coatings and inspections to provide inspection and testing services for the trials in accordance with Inspection and Testing Protocols to be agreed.</p> <p>The parties agree to comply with the Inspection and Testing Protocols at all times.</p>
<b>Future Trials:</b>	During the Term, in the event the parties agree to undertake further trials of <b>ecosparc</b> <sup>®</sup> , such trials will be undertaken on the same terms and conditions unless otherwise agreed in writing.
<b>Termination Provisions:</b>	<p>Either party may terminate the Trial Agreement by giving three (3) months' written notice.</p> <p>Sparc may terminate the Trial Agreement upon the occurrence of a specified event including, without limitation, 29Metals ceasing, or indicating that it is about to cease, carrying on its business.</p>
<b>Confidentiality and Intellectual Property:</b>	<p>Customary provisions regarding confidential information, and protection of Sparc's inventions and intellectual property.</p> <p>Sparc will own all intellectual property which is created during the performance of the trials.</p>
<b>Liability:</b>	No warranty is provided by Sparc in respect of the performance of the <b>ecosparc</b> <sup>®</sup> enhanced coating.

